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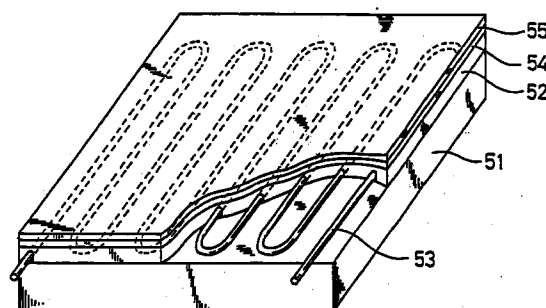
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(54) **Infrared heater**

(57) The present invention relates to an infrared heater which has a heat conduction plate (52) with a resistance heating element (53) disposed below the heat conduction plate (53) for heating the heat conduction plate (52). The upper surface of the heat conduction plate (52) has an infrared radiation layer (55) formed thereon, which receives heat from the heat conduction plate (52) and emits infrared radiation. The infrared radiation layer (55) is formed of alumina and has a relatively narrow temperature distribution over its surface.

FIG. 8



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
X A	WO 85 03248 A (VITRONICS CORPORATION) * page 12, paragraph 2 - page 13, paragraph 2; figure 5 * ---	1 2-4	B23K1/005 H05B3/62
A	GB 2 200 520 A (PACE INC.) * page 12, paragraph 2 - page 13, paragraph 3; figure 2 * -----	1-5	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
			B23K H05B
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 9 March 1998	Examiner Herbreteau, D
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